The member also suggested that rules should be framed to the effect that the testing of the quantity of consumption should be done only by officers of the grade of Assistant Engineers and that the control of the supply of water in the town should be left in the hands of the Municipality.

Reply of Government.—Will be enquired into. The new rules were framed after consulting the Municipalities concerned.

SUBJECT No. 591.

Theft in the Bangalore City Railway goods shed.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindia, Commercial Association, Bangalore City.

Summary of discussion.—Systematic thefts have been going on in the city goods-shed. Articles consigned to this place are scarcely received in proper condition and the weight of every bag is found to be invariably somewhat less than the consigner's weight, in spite of the secure packing. Sometimes cheaper articles are substituted, for instance a tin of oil for one of ghee in a quantity consigned. Merchants are thus put to heavy loss. Their petitions to the railway authorities in this matter have not had the desired effect. It is prayed that a searching enquiry be caused to be made and the undesirable practice put a stop to early. There appears to be a Regulation in Madras to remedy these difficulties. It may be enquired into and the necessary steps taken here also.

Reply of Government.—Will be inquired into.

SUBJECT No. 592.

Loading of goods.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindia, Commercial Association, Bangalore City.

Summary of discussion.—The gates of the railway station goods-yard are very often found closed on working days of the week. No notice of this is given to the merchants beforehand. The result has been that goods sent to the station are received back in the course of the day. On enquiry we are told that goods are not received for want of empty waggons. Much inconvenience and unnecessary expense is thus caused. The railway authorities have been approached, but up to date matters have not improved. It is prayed that a reference be made early and the grievance remedied.

Reply of Government.—The Company will be addressed in the matter.

SUBJECT No. 593.

Municipal Chairman.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindia, Commercial Association, Bangalore City.

Summary of discussion.—The Chairman of the Municipality to be elected from among the Municipal Councillors as in Madura, Vellore and other places.

Mr. M. K. Krishnamurthi Rao—Non-officials should be encouraged by their being made to take greater interest in Municipal Administration.

Mr. Krishnamurthi Rao was in favour of a whole-time non-official chairman.

Reply of Government.—Noted.